



U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Official Business

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4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
MISSISSIPPI

August 1999

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

THE RONNIE SHOWS REPORT

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Friends:

The big debate today is how to use surplus federal dollars. I support tax cuts but cannot support the tax bill Congress recently passed. Across-the-board cuts may seem fair, but they will give most of us just pocket change.

But by failing to reduce the \$6 trillion national debt, this bill would force all Americans to pay higher interest rates and higher prices for everything, every day, for years to come. And that's not fair at all.

I support *responsible* tax cuts that help working families and businesses – such as estate tax cuts, capital gains cuts, and marriage penalty cuts – and *responsible* tax incentives that help families afford higher education.

But most of all, we should use budget surpluses to pay off the debt as soon as we can, and make sure Social Security and Medicare are secure for our elderly.

We need to do the right thing. We can cut taxes, but we must also make sure our bills are paid and our elderly folks are taken care of. That is what any responsible family would do.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Shows

RONNIE SHOWS
Member of Congress

RONNIE SHOWS 'FOR THE PEOPLE COMMUNITY TOUR'

This tour will bring *directly to the people* components of key programs. Seniors, veterans, farmers, business owners, parents – everyone – will be able to share their views or discuss personal matters, such as Social Security or Medicare, with me and officials responsible for these services:

Medicare • Social Security • Veterans Admin. • Dept. of Agriculture • Small Business Admin. • Dept. of Housing & Urban Development • Census Bureau • MS Small Business Development • MS Health Dept. • MS Economic & Community Development Dept. • MS National Guard • MS Community Works

| <u>Monday, Aug. 30</u> | <u>Tuesday, Aug. 31</u> | <u>Wednesday, Sept. 1</u> | <u>Thursday, Sept. 2</u> | <u>Friday, Sept. 3</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 11:00 Mendenhall | 8:30 Ellisville | 8:30 McComb | 9:00 Brookhaven | 9:00 Raymond |
| 3:30 Prentiss | 1:00 Columbia | 12:00 Hazlehurst | 12:00 Liberty | |
| 6:00 Collins | 3:30 Monticello | 3:30 Meadville | 2:15 Woodville | |
| | 5:30 Tylertown | | 5:00 Natchez | |

* Check your local newspapers or call (601) 352-1355 for exact locations of the 'For the People Community Tour' *

CALL RONNIE SHOWS FOR ASSISTANCE

I provide a variety of services for the people of our area. Please call, write or visit any of these offices to get more information!

Help with the Government Ask for help to resolve problems with Social Security, Medicare, VA, IRS, USDA, SBA or other agencies.

Flags, Information and Tours Government documents or American flags that have been flown over the Capitol can be obtained, or tours of the White House or other historic sites in Washington can be arranged.

Academy Appointments & College Loans High school juniors and seniors can apply to attend our nation's service academies (U.S. Military, Air Force, Naval, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines). Information about loans for college-bound students is available.

Congressional Art Competition High school students from our area compete and the winning entry is displayed in our nation's Capitol.

FULL TIME OFFICES

245 E. Capitol Street, Suite 222
Jackson, MS 39201
(601) 352-1355 (601) 352-9044 Fax

243 John R. Junkin Drive, Suite D
Natchez, MS 39120
(601) 446-8825 (601) 446-7250 Fax

728-1/2 Sawmill Road
Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 425-4999 (601) 425-5428 Fax

509 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5865 (202) 225-5886 Fax
Web & Email: www.house.gov/shows/

Part Time: Columbia (601) 731-1622,
Mendenhall 847- 2375, Ellisville 477-
9272. Watch for new offices near you!

RONNIE SHOWS: "PUT WORKING FAMILIES FIRST!"

Saving Social Security and Medicare

- Protecting the Social Security Trust Fund to keep the government from spending it on other programs.
- Formulating a "seniors-only" Cost-of-Living Adjustment that reflects the actual cost of being elderly in America.
- Paying off the federal debt to provide more resources for Medicare.

Affordable Health Care

- Supporting Patients Bill of Rights so people in HMOs get proper medical and emergency treatment.
- Making prescription drugs affordable for seniors on Medicare.
- Improving the quality and availability of rural health care.
- Allowing small business owners to deduct 100% of health insurance costs.
- Increasing funding for diabetes research.
- Extending Medicaid coverage for early detection of breast and cervical cancer.

UPDATE ON SHOWS' INITIATIVES

SHOWS' 'NAFTA RELIEF' BILL SAVES JOBS

The closing of factories in *Collins* and *Prentiss* because of unfair competition from Mexico has devastated many families. This is not the first time NAFTA has caused unemployment in our area. To help honest, able-bodied people keep working, I introduced The NAFTA Impact Relief Act, which will offer incentives to new businesses to move into these communities and hire the displaced workers. The bill has strong support in Congress and we will work hard to achieve its passage into law.

SHOWS INTRODUCES RAILWAY SAFETY BILL

Accidents at railway crossings occur too often in Mississippi, and this year students from *Clinton* were injured in the tragic railway derailment in Illinois. My railway safety bill would establish a malfunction notification system, require emergency doors and windows, add more safety inspectors to increase track inspections, certify rail workers, and enact worker fatigue rules.

SHOWS BILL FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

We are all concerned about the quality of education and school violence. Of course, we need to reduce class size and modernize classrooms, but many problems in our schools go beyond the classroom and involve entire schools or districts. New legislation to help neediest school districts recruit and retain qualified principals and administrators is a unique approach to improving education and should gain much support in Congress.

Quality Schools and Child Care

- Providing Mississippi the flexibility to use federal funds to build and modernize schools.
- Wiring every school to the Internet.
- Improving the availability of quality after-school childcare for working families.

Promoting American Agriculture

- Capital gains and estate tax relief for family farms, businesses and foresters.
- Promoting stable fluid milk pricing and ensuring fresh supplies of milk for consumers.
- Protecting American agriculture by requiring labeling of imported meat and produce.

Veterans and Military Retiree Benefits

- Raising military pay, increasing Montgomery GI Bill benefits, and extending healthcare for those who have defended our country.



Congressman Shows discussed health benefit issues at a Military Retirees Summit in Laurel last March.

SHOWS' RETIRED MILITARY HEALTH BILLS

People who enlisted in the military prior to June 7, 1956, were given the false impression that they would receive free lifetime retirement health care if they served at least 20 years. These benefits were never provided, and many military retirees do not have access to health care that other retired federal workers receive. I am writing legislation to make good on the 'broken promise' and to make quality health care more accessible to all military retirees.

SHOWS WORKS TO FIX WARNING TOWER

Tornadoes and hurricanes are a constant threat and have caused serious damage in our area. I have been working to repair the Melba National Weather Service emergency warning tower, which serves Jones, Covington, Jefferson Davis, Simpson, Lawrence, Marion, Walthall, Lamar & Forrest counties. Recently, Congress directed the NWS to recommend steps to ensure the Melba Tower is fully functional during periods of severe weather.

Shows Helps Jackson and Hinds County : *The City of Jackson will receive funds to improve the JATran bus system and to upgrade the city's sewage system. In addition, Jackson International Airport, Hawkins Field in Jackson, and John Bell Williams Airport in Hinds County have been placed on the priority list for airport improvements. These improvements will benefit people throughout our state.*